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more thriving and fructifies richly, whereas the former is a more delicate plant, and has never yet been met with in a fructifying state. It is also curious that a so remarkably distinct form as the *Nephroma arcticum*, which is so generally met with in the northern alpine and subalpine regions, should nowhere else be represented by any analogous or similar form, excepting at Magellan Straits, where the very similar and nearly related *Nephroma antarcticum* is met with. Among the phanerogamous [flowering] plants, the genus *Empetrum* presents the same phenomenon, being in the north, principally represented by the *Empetrum nigrum*, whereas in Antarctic America the *Empetrum rubrum* is the prevailing species, unless (as I have lately seen asserted) this latter be also found in Northern America.

No species of vertebrate animal is known with certainty to be common to both poles.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF CRUSTACEA, FOUND LIVING IN SPECIES OF THE GENUS ASCIDIA. By T. Thorell. From the Transactions of the Royal Academy of Science of Stockholm. Bd. iii., pp. 84, 14 plates. 4to.

In this valuable paper we have a very full account of some curious little crustaceans, allies of our common water-fleas found swimming in our fresh water pools. These strange forms are parasitic in the outer thick envelope (test) of the ascidians, or "shellless clams"; much as *Pinnotheres ostreum*, the little oyster crab, lives as a guest in the shell of the oyster. Observers should be on the look out for them in the ascidians of this country.

ON THE POLYPTES AND ECHINODERMS OF NEW ENGLAND, WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES. By A. E. Verrill. From the Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History, April 18, 1866. pp. 25. 8vo.

Professor Verrill here gives us a very useful list of all the sea Anemones, Star-fish and Beche-le-mers, or Sea-cucumbers, as they are often called, which are found on our north eastern coast. To those who may be dredging, or engaged in the less exciting search for these interesting forms in the tidal pools, and under the sea weeds along the shore, this pamphlet will be invaluable.

THE MYRIAPODA OF NORTH AMERICA. By Prof. Horatio C. Wood, jr. From the Transactions of the American Philosophical Society. Philadelphia, 1865. pp. 92, illustrated with 3 plates and over 60 cuts. 4to.

To young collectors and entomologists generally, the Thousand-legs and Centipedes one occasionally meets with in his rambles, are stumbling blocks. In this monograph, containing so complete an account of their structure and forms, the author has filled a great gap in American Natural History. The plates are in the main very well drawn; but there has been an oversight in representing all the legs pointing towards the tail, which is not the natural position. Those on the anterior half of the body should have been directed towards the head.